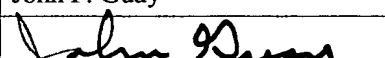


REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application Number	09/578,895
	Filing Date	May 26, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
	Group Art Unit	2811
	Examiner Name	Gene M. Munson
	Attorney Docket Number	740756-2160

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114		RECEIVED JUL 17 2006 OFFICE OF PETITIONS
a. <input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____ iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed i. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings v. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition to Withdraw from Issue		
2. Miscellaneous a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Petition to Withdraw from Issue</u> b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is authorized to charge Deposit Account # 19-2380 in the amount of \$920.00 c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	John F. Guay	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,248
Signature		Date	July 17, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO on _____	
Signature:	
Name:	

07/18/2006 CKHLOK 00000010 192380 09578895

02 FC:1801 790.00 DA

SEND TO: Mail Stop 313(c)
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450